## SOUTHWEST FISHERIES SCIENCE CENTER SECOND OUARTER REPORT-FY 2003

For the Period January 1 - March 30, 2003

**Submitted By: Lab Director/Division Director/Group Chief:** John Hunter, Division Director, Fisheries Resources Division

**Title of Accomplishment or Milestone:** Brood stock collection of the endangered white abalone for captive breeding and future enhancement.

Current Status: Postponed.

**Background Information:** The white abalone, *Haliotis sorenseni*, was listed as an endangered species on May 29, 2001. The white abalone recovery team has recommended brood stock collection, captive breeding, and re-introduction to enhance the population.

Purpose of Activity: To obtain brood stock for captive breeding.

**Description of Accomplishment and Significant Results:** Brood stock were not collected this year because the necessary permit was not available.

**Significance of Accomplishment:** None.

**Problems:** The application for a permit was made in February 2002. Public comment and objections that establishing a captive breeding facility at the SWFSC would unfairly compete with a private enterprise which was trying to obtain public funding delayed the permit. As of March 2003 the permit has not been issued by NMFS

**Key Contact:** John Butler (858-546-7149).